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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00
SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OIC-02
AF-10 TRSE-00 DHA-02 HEW-04 /123 W
----------141618Z 064331 /43
O R 141513Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8225
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 4754

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLAB, ILO
SUBJ: ILO 63RD CONFERENCE - DAILY REPORT FOR JUNE 13

1. ARTICLE 17 - STRUCTURE COMMITTEE (SC) BEGAN CONSIDERATION LATE IN SESSION. EMPLOYER GROUP SPOKE BUT ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS BECAUSE EMPLOYER DRAFT STILL BEING WORKED ON. HESS (UK) SPOKE FOR EC-9, GIVING DETAILED EXPLANATION OF ART. 17 AMENDMENT. FURTHER IMEC GOVT SPEAKERS WILL TRY TO CLARIFY TEXT SO THAT SC UNDERSTANDS WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED. CHAIRMAN AZIMI (IRAN) PRIVATELY TALKING TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO SEE HOW THEY REACT TO IDEA OF WORKING PARTY OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE. 28 SPEAKERS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 14. AMBASSADOR SHAFEI (EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR) TRYING TO GET G-77 (OF WHICH HE IS CURRENTLY CHAIRMAN) TO AGREE TO LINK ARTICLE 17 TO ALL OTHER STRUCTURE ISSUES, THUS BURYING IT FOR THIS YEAR. SOME OTHER ARAB
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DELEGATES HAVE INDICATED TO USDEL THEY DO NOT FEEL STRONGLY ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, AND HAVE NO CHANGES TO PROPOSE IN EXISTING DRAFT. SECY. OF LABOR MARSHALL, IN CONVERSATIONS WITH DG BLANCHARD AND ILC PRESIDENT AMEDUME (GHANA), COVERED ARTICLE 17 ISSUE. USDEL MAY ASK ONE OR BOTH OFFICIALS TO WEIGHT IN IF SC DOES NOT MAKE PROGRESS THIS SUBJECT.

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2. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE - FINISHED SEVEN OUT OF 59 AMENDMENTS TO FIRST RESOLUTION, AND MAY NOT REACH PANAMA RESOLUTION UNTIL LATE IN WEEK UNLESS CHAIRMAN SPEEDS THINGS UP. COMMITTEE MUST FINISH ITS WORK BY MIDNIGHT JUNE 18. PRESENT PANAMA TEXT WOULD BE GOOD TEST IF IT IS SENT TO PLENARY, BUT SOME EFFORT MAY BE MADE TO WATER IT DOWN IN COMMITTEE. SOME ARABS HAVE TOLD MEMBER USDEL THEY UNHAPPY ABOUT BEING LOBBIED BY PANAMANIANS AND WANT US TO GET LATTER TO WITHDRAW RESOLUTION.

3. COMMITTEE ON APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS - A LONG DISUCSSION ON USSR AND CONVENTION 29 (FORCED LABOR), WITH SOVIET REP MAKING EXTREMELY SKILLFUL PRESENTATION IN CONCILIATORY TONE, LEADING TO FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE IN COMMITTEE. USSR REP SAID SOVIET LAW PROHIBITING PARASITIC WAY OF LIFE ONLY APPLIED TO GAMBLERS AND FORTUNETELLERS, AND THAT LAW ON COLLECTIVE FARMERS DID NOT PROHIBIT FARMERS LEAVING, ADDING THAT PERHAPS SOME CLARIFYING LAW OR STATEMENT WAS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS UNDERSTOOD. ED HICKEY (US WORKER) TOLD USREP HOROWITZ LATER THAT HE FELT USSR HAD BEEN FORTHCOMING IN STATE-MENT AND OUTCOME WAS GENERALLY SATISFACTORY. COMMITTEE DID NOT APPEAR LIKELY TO PRESS FOR EITHER SPECIAL PARA-GRAPH OR SPECIAL LIST.

(B) ON CONVENTION 87 (FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION) SOVIET REP SAID THAT OLD AND NEW CONSTITUTIONS HAD COMMUNIST PARTY LEADING TRADE UNIONS BECAUSE WORKERS WISHED IT. USDEL CONFIDENTIAL

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SHIRE MADE STRONG INTERVENTION SAYING THAT EMBODYING THIS ARRANGEMENT IN CONSTITUTION MADE IT ILLEGAL FOR WORKERS TO CHANGE SET UP IF THEY WISHED TO, AND RECOM-MENDED EITHER ALTERING NEW CONSTITUTION OR RENOUNCING ADHERANCE TO 87. EXPECT STRONG INTERVENTION FROM US WORKER JUNE 14, AND PREDICT SPECIAL PARAGRAPH ON USSR.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 4754

(C) ISSUE OF USSR ALLOWING ONLY ONE UNION AT EACH SITE CAME UP, WITH SOVIET REP CLAIMING THIS NOT THE CASE AND THAT SOVIET LAW HAD BEEN MISTRANSLATED. NO REACTION FROM COMMITTEE SINCE THIS AROSE LATE IN SESSION BUT USDEL MAY CHALLENGE OR SEEK HAVE OTHER DELEGATIONS CHALLENGE, REQUESTING OFFICIAL TRANSLATION FROM ILO OFFICE.

(D) COMMITTEE AGREED TO SPECIAL PARAGRAPH ON CHILE, EXPRESSING "GRAVE CONCERN" BUT OTHERWISE FAIRLY LOWKEY.

(E) ISRAEL: IMEC GOVT REPS HAVE AGREED TO RECOMMEND THAT ANY CONCLUSIONS ON SITUATION WOULD BE PREMATURE IN FRAMEWORK OF COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS REPORT. USSR REP INDICATED HE PLANS NOT PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION ON GROUNDS GOI HAS NO AUTHORITY OVER OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND THEREFORE COMMITTEE HAS NO JURISDICTION OVER ISSUE.
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4. NURSING PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - ALL AMENDMENTS FINISHED, BUT WORKING PARTY UNABLE TO AGREE ON DRAFT CONVENTION SO FULL COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER AND TRY FINISH WORK BY COB JUNE 14.

5. WORKING ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE - COMPLETED ITS WORK.

6. LABOR ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE - HAS FINISHED DISCUSSING 12 OUT OF 34 POINTS, CAUSING CONCERN THAT COMMITTEE MAY NOT FINISH WORK ON SCHEDULE. DEBATE FINISHED ON CONVENTION; DEBATE BEGINNING ON RECOMMENDA-

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TION. HEATED DISCUSSION BETWEEN WORKER AND GOVT REPS
ON ISSUE OF HAVING GOVT PLAY COORDINATING ROLE IN
MATTERS PERTAINING TO WORKER AND EMPLOYER ORGANIZATIONS,
WITH WORKERS WANTING LIMIT GOVT INTERVENTION UNLESS
REQUESTED BY WORKERS. IF WORKERS HOLD THIS EXTREME
POSITION, FINAL INSTRUMENT MAY BE USELESS ON MANY
ISSUES. WESTERN GOVTS WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS GENERALLY
TAKING SAME POSITION AS US.

7. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE - REACHED CONSENSUS ON
POINTS 5-9 OF DRAFT CONVENTION, AS FOLLOWS: ALL PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES COVERED EXCEPT COUNTRIES CAN EXCLUDE MANAGERIAL
EMPLOYEES AND ARMED FORCES OR POLICE, AND COUNTRIES CAN
DECIDE WHICH EMPLOYEES ARE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. WORKERS
GOT THEIR OBJECTIVE OF GUARANTEED COVERAGE UNDER
CONVENTION 98 OR THE NEW CONVENTION; GOVTS GOT THEIR
RIGHT TO DETERMINE WHICH EMPLOYEES ARE COVERED. NO
RESTRICTION ON KINDS OF UNION TO WHICH PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
CAN BELONG. JAPANESE REP TOLD USDEL THAT GOJ FELT IT
HAD GOT STATUS QUO ON POINTS WHICH HAD CONCERNED GOJ.

8. PLENARY - MARSHALL SPEECH WAS LISTENED TO ATTENTIVELY,
AND RECEIVED NORMAL APPLAUSE. USREP CONSIDERS FACT
THAT US SECY OF LABOR CAME TO AND SPOKE OF CONFERENCE
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HAD SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE AS SIGNAL OF US EFFORTS TO
PARTICIPATE FULLY IN ILO. SEE SEPTEL FOR OTHER INFOR-
MATION IN PLENARY JUNE 13.SORENSON

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